

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/EP2004/007846

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A43B5/04

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A43B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 02/094047 A (HEIERLING HANS-MARTIN ; PATENTPOOL INNOVATIONSMAN GMBH (DE) ; COOMER SV) 28 November 2002 (2002-11-28) page 4, line 10 - page 5, line 2; figures 1,2,9,12,38a,38b	1
Y	EP 1 023 849 A (SCARPA CALZATURIFICIO SPA) 2 August 2000 (2000-08-02) paragraph [0012]; figures 1,3	1-6,20
Y	US 4 843 740 A (WALKHOFF KLAUS) 4 July 1989 (1989-07-04) column 5, line 28 - line 47; figure 8	1-6,20

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search

27 October 2004

Date of mailing of the International search report

18.02.2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No  
PCT/EP2004/007846

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 02094047	A 28-11-2002	WO	02094047 A1	28-11-2002
		EP	1389056 A1	18-02-2004
		JP	2004527326 T	09-09-2004
		US	2004211091 A1	28-10-2004
EP 1023849	A 02-08-2000	IT	T0990055 A1	26-07-2000
		AT	262288 T	15-04-2004
		CA	2297200 A1	26-07-2000
		DE	60009178 D1	29-04-2004
		EP	1023849 A1	02-08-2000
		JP	2000229003 A	22-08-2000
		NO	20000353 A	27-07-2000
		PL	338029 A1	31-07-2000
		US	6247252 B1	19-06-2001
US 4843740	A 04-07-1989	CH	680699 A5	30-10-1992
		AT	56593 T	15-10-1990
		DE	3860631 D1	25-10-1990
		EP	0287816 A1	26-10-1988
		US	4864744 A	12-09-1989

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## Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1.  Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
  
2.  Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
  
3.  Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
  
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
  
3.  As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
  
4.  No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-15, 20

### Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.  
 No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-15,20

Controlling bending action by means of collapsible chambers

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2. claims: 1,16-19

Controlling bending action by means of tongues and bending lines

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3. claims: 1,21-22

Controlling bending action by means of a flexion rod connected to the collar

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4. claims: 1,23-28

Controlling bending action by means of a flexion frame

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5. claims: 1,29-30

Controlling bending action by means of a tuning fork

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6. claims: 1,31-32,33

Controlling bending action by means of a shaped housing able to receive a cushion or flat appendices

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7. claims: 1,34-36

Controlling bending action by means of springy elements

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8. claims: 1,37-42

Controlling bending action by modifying the sole structure

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9. claims: 1,43-49

Controlling bending action by means of bellows and stiffening elements

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10. claims: 1,50

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Controlling bending action by heat deformation of the boot  
using piezo elements

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